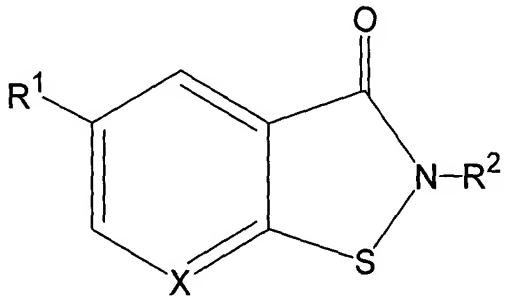
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (New) A method of inhibiting a urease activity, which comprises administering to a person in need thereof a urease inhibitor which contains, as an active ingredient, an isothiazole compound represented by the general formula (1):

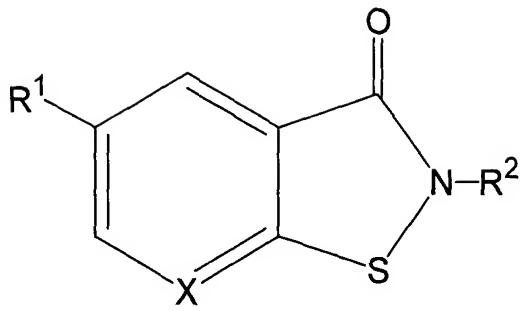


(1)

wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom or an amino group, R^2 represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, or an acetyl group, and X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom or an adduct salt thereof.

6. (New) The method of inhibiting a urease activity of claim 5, wherein the isothiazole compound is at least one selected from the group consisting of 1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one, isothiazolo[5,4-b]pyridin-3(2H)-one, 5-amino-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one, N-methyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one and N-acetyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one.

7. (New) A method of inhibiting a Helicobacter pylori activity, which comprises administering to a person in need thereof an anti-Helicobacter pylori agent which contains, as an active ingredient, an isothiazole compound represented by the general formula (1):



(1)

wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom or an amino group, R^2 represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, or an acetyl group, and X represents a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom or an adduct salt thereof.

8. (New) The method of inhibiting a Helicobacter pylori activity of claim 7, wherein the isothiazole compound is at least one selected from the group consisting of 1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one, isothiazolo[5,4-b]pyridin-3(2H)-one, 5-amino-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one, N-methyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one and N-acetyl-1,2-benzoisothiazol-3(2H)-one.